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I hereby certify that, on the date indicated above, I deposited this paper with identified attachments and/or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 by "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service.

Donald S. Prater  
Name (Print)

*Donald S. Prater*  
Signature

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Application No. : 10/731,420 Confirmation No.: 3941  
Applicants : WOUDENBERG et al.  
Filed : December 8, 2003  
TC/A.U. : 1753  
Examiner : Jeffrey T. BARTON  
  
Attorney Docket No. : 5010-239  
Customer No.: 35411

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Prior to examination of the above-identified application, please amend the application as follows:

*Please amend the above-identified application as follows:*

**Amendments to the Drawings** begin on page 2 of this paper and include both an attached replacement sheet and an annotated sheet showing changes.

**Amendments to the Claims** begin on page 3 of this paper.

**Remarks/Arguments** begin on page 7 of this paper.